

In re MARCHISSEAU, et al.
09/988,398

Remarks

The Examiner is thanked for the Official Action dated April 24, 2003 and the indication of allowable subject matter. This amendment and request for reconsideration is intended to be fully responsive thereto.

The drawings were objected to for failing to show all of the features specified in the claims. Applicant has filed a separate Letter to the Draftsperson seeking approval of a change made in red ink to Figure 5 to show schematically the optical system of claims 6-10. No new matter has been entered.

Applicant also requests that the Figure labeled "FIGURE POUR ABREGE" be cancelled from this application. This redundant figure is identical to Figure 5 and was submitted as the published Abstract in the related French priority application.

The disclosure was objected to for several minor informalities which have been corrected by the above amendment. No new matter has been entered.

Claims 1-3 and 5-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Honda (USP 6,500,294). Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Honda '294 in view of Krenkel et al. (US 6,042,935). Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.

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§103(a) as being unpatentable over Bacher (USP 6,102,184) in view of Sakano (JP 3-88347).

These rejections are respectfully traversed in view of the above amendment and the following remarks.

Claim 1 of pending application is not anticipated by Honda (US 6,500,294). The invention of pending claim 1 "consists in depositing a predetermined quantity of adhesive by means of an adhesive applicator defining an adhesive applying zone the form of which corresponds to that of said adhesion zone". Honda, on the other hand, discloses the "number of rotations and rotating angle of the turn table are controlled corresponding to the area of the adhering surface to be coated" (see page 12, lines 46 to 48 of Honda '294).

Therefore, according to Honda, the applicator does not define an adhesive applying zone the form of which corresponds to the adhesion zone, but in Honda '294 the number of rotations and the rotating angle of the turn table are controlled corresponding to the area of the adhering surface to be coating.

FIGS. 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27 of Honda et al. '294 show means to form a friction blank material tape in order to obtain the friction material element. Accordingly, Honda '294 does not constitute an anticipation of pending claim 1. More specifically, FIGS. 19 and 20 of Honda '294 show a heat roller device used in the thickness regulating step of the friction material tape under pressure and heat. FIG. 21 shows the friction material tape cut after the steps shown in FIG. 19 and 20, in order to form a friction material segment. FIG. 22 and 23 show another heat

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roller in order to decrease the thickness of the friction blank material tape and to form plural rectangular cavities, under pressure and heat. FIG.24 shows the friction material tape cut after the steps shown in FIG. 22 and 23, in order to form a friction material segment. FIG. 25 and 26 show another kind of heat roller device to decrease the thickness of a friction material tape under pressure and heat. FIG. 27 shows the friction material segment composed of two segments, each corresponding to about twice the normal friction material tape, in order to perform shorter the time periods necessary for punching the friction material tape into the friction material segment.

As discussed above, pending claim 1 differs from Honda by the fact that a predetermined quantity of adhesive is deposited by means defining an adhesive applying zone the form of which corresponds to that of the adhesion zone. Krenkel '935 describes a carbon fibers reinforced friction element which is bonded to a support by a high temperature resistant bonding layer. Krenkel '935 does not describe or suggest any method for depositing an adhesive.

Silverbrook '339 does not address the same problem as the pending application. Silverbrook '339 describes an apparatus capable of applying adhesive on a paper sheet in a printing device. Moreover, Silverbrook '339 does not teach the form of the adhesion zone with respect of the form of the adhesive applying zone.

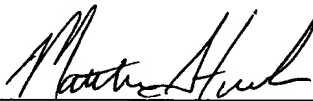
Bacher '184 describes the form of the adhesion zone located on the blades of a progressive disc. Bacher '184 does not disclose or suggest any method of depositing an adhesive. JP 03 088 347 describes a resin transfer body formed with grooves to divide the depositing surface in an plurality of smaller surfaces in order to reduce the thickness variations of

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transferred resin. Therefore, an adhesive resin zone without irregularities in thickness can be transferred and applied on a predetermined zone. JP'347 does not mention or suggest the fact that the adhesion zone has a form corresponding to the form of the adhesive applying zone as defined by the applicator.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments and comments resolve all outstanding issues and place this application in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe additional discussion would advance the prosecution of the present application, they are invited to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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